

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of making a coated abrasive article comprising the steps of:
 - (a) introducing a slurry containing a mixture of a binder and a plurality of abrasive grains onto a production tool, wherein the production tool is shaped to include an at least two-by-two array of protruding units,
 - wherein each protruding unit has a base defined by a perimeter that has a first side, an oppositely disposed second side, and a third side, the third side extending ~~between~~ from the first side and the second side,
 - wherein, for each unit, its respective distal linear region, when projected on to a plane that is coplanar with its respective base, extends between a non-central point on the first side of the base and a non-central point on the second side of the base, and is not co-linear to the third side;
 - (b) introducing a backing to the outer surface of the production tool such that the slurry wets one side of the backing to form an intermediate article;
 - (c) at least partially curing the binder before the intermediate article departs from the outer surface of the production tool to form a coated abrasive article; and
 - (d) removing the coated abrasive article from the production tool.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each base is a rectangle having length and a width.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the length of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils and the width of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is at most 60 mils.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the distal linear regions are not parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each base has substantially the same geometry.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each base has a different geometry.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each base is the same size.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one base is a different size than another base.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with one another.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one distal linear region is not parallel with another distal linear region.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is substantially constant.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region varies.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of abrading a surface of a workpiece comprising steps of:

(a) providing a coated abrasive article comprising a backing having attached to at least one major surface thereof a plurality of abrasive composites, wherein the abrasive composites include an array of protruding units,

wherein each protruding unit has a base that has a first side and an oppositely disposed second side,

wherein, for each unit, its respective distal linear region, when projected on to a plane that is coplanar with its respective base, extends between a non-central point on the first side of the base and a non-central point on the second side of the base;

(b) placing the surface of said article having abrasive composites attached thereto in contact with the surface of said workpiece; and

(c) moving at least one of the surface of said article or the surface of said workpiece with respect to the other so as to abrade the surface of said workpiece.

16. (Currently amended) A method of making a coated abrasive article comprising the steps of:

(a) introducing a slurry containing a mixture of a binder and a plurality of abrasive grains onto a surface of a backing;

(b) introducing a production tool to the surface of the backing on which the slurry has been introduced to form an intermediate article, wherein the production tool is shaped to include an at least two-by-two array of protruding units,

wherein each protruding unit has a base defined by a perimeter that has a first side, an oppositely disposed second side, and a third side, the third side extending ~~between~~ from the first side and the second side,

wherein, for each unit, its respective distal linear region, when projected on to a plane that is coplanar with its respective base, extends between a non-central point on the first side of the base and a non-central point on the second side of the base, and is not co-linear to the third side;

(c) at least partially curing the binder before the intermediate article departs from the production tool to form a coated abrasive article; and

(d) removing the coated abrasive article from the production tool.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein each base is a rectangle having length and a width.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the length of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils and the width of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is at most 60 mils.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the distal linear regions are not parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein each base has substantially the same geometry.

23. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein each base has a different geometry.

24. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein each base is the same size.

25. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein at least one base is a different size than another base.

26. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with one another.

27. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein at least one distal linear region is not parallel with another distal linear region.

28. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein each the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is substantially constant.

29. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region varies.

30. (Currently amended) A method of making a coated abrasive article comprising the steps of:

(a) introducing a slurry containing a mixture of a binder and a plurality of abrasive grains onto a production tool, wherein the production tool is shaped to include an at least two-by-two array of protruding units,

wherein each protruding unit has a base defined by a perimeter that has a first side, an oppositely disposed second side, and a third side, the third side extending ~~between~~ from the first side and the second side,

wherein, for each unit, its respective distal linear region, when projected on to a plane that is coplanar with its respective base, extends between a non-central point on the first side of the base and a non-central point on the second side of the base, and is not co-linear to the third side;

(b) introducing a backing to the outer surface of the production tool such that the slurry wets one side of the backing;

(c) at least partially curing the binder while on the production tool to form an intermediate article;

(d) removing the intermediate article from the production tool; and

(e) curing the at least partially cured binder to form a coated abrasive article.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein each base is a rectangle having length and a width.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the length of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils and the width of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils.

33. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is at most 60 mils.

34. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

35. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the distal linear regions are not parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

36. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein each base has substantially the same geometry.

37. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein each base has a different geometry.

38. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein each base is the same size.

39. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein at least one base is a different size than another base.

40. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with one another.

41. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein at least one distal linear region is not parallel with another distal linear region.

42. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein each the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is substantially constant.

43. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region varies.

44. (Currently amended) A method of making a coated abrasive article comprising the steps of:

- (a) introducing a slurry containing a mixture of a binder and a plurality of abrasive grains onto a surface of a backing;
- (b) introducing a production tool to the surface of the backing on which the slurry has been introduced, wherein the production tool is shaped to include
 - an at least two-by-two array of protruding units,
 - wherein each protruding unit has a base defined by a perimeter that has a first side, an oppositely disposed second side, and a third side, the third side extending ~~between~~ from the first side and the second side,
 - wherein, for each unit, its respective distal linear region, when projected on to a plane that is coplanar with its respective base, extends between a non-central point on the first side of the base and a non-central point on the second side of the base, and is not co-linear to the third side;
- (c) at least partially curing the binder while on the production tool to form an intermediate article;
- (d) removing the intermediate article from the production tool; and
- (e) curing the at least partially cured binder to form a coated abrasive article.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein each base is a rectangle having length and a width.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the length of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils and the width of the rectangle is between 1 and 150 mils.

47. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is at most 60 mils.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

49. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the distal linear regions are not parallel with at least one side of their corresponding rectangular bases.

50. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein each base has substantially the same geometry.

51. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein each base has a different geometry.

52. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein each base is the same size.

53. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein at least one base is a different size than another base.

54. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the distal linear regions are substantially parallel with one another.

55. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein at least one distal linear region is not parallel with another distal linear region.

56. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein each the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region is substantially constant.

57. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the distance between each base and its respective distal linear region varies.